

Instructions for Petitions to the 2010 Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation

GENERAL PETITION INFORMATION:

Each petition must address only one topic or one disciplinary paragraph unless two or more paragraphs "are so closely related that a change in one affects the others" (Discipline ¶507.2). Rationales must be limited to fifty (50) words for each petition.

Format for Petition Submissions

I. Heading

The top of each page of the petition should read as follows:

Page Number: (i.e. – "Page 2 of 4")

Suggested Title: (i.e. – "Young Adult Council Member")

Discipline Paragraph or Resolution Number (i.e. "Discipline No. 506")

Financial Implications: (i.e. – "Financial Implications: None or Yes")

Identification of the Petitioner (i.e. – Name, Address, Email Address, Phone Number, Local Church, Annual or Central Conference)

II. Purpose

-The purpose states why the petition is being written. It usually starts with the word "To". It should be as brief as possible, maximum of one sentence.

III. Whereas Clauses

-The "whereas" clauses should list facts that support the enactment of your petition.

- No more than 3 "whereas" clauses

-"Whereas" clauses should be followed by a comma, and the next word in the sentence should begin with a lower case letter.

IV. Therefore

-The "Therefore" statement is what introduces the actions that you are trying to implement.

V. Sections

- If you have definitions for the petition, they should be put in the first section.

-You may have as many "Therefore" sections as you need.

-The last section will state when you would like the resolution to be implemented. For instance, the most widely used wording is, "Section X: This resolution will take effect immediately upon passage by the General Assembly."

Note: Computerized files should be submitted in rich text format (RTF) or with Microsoft Word 97-03 compatible edition. The standard font is Times New Roman, and the standard font size in 12.

Note: Members of the Legislative Committee will review all proposed resolutions and contact the petitioner should formatting problems arise.

Submission Process:**Digital petitions may be submitted in three ways:**

- 1) Create the petition using word processing software, preferably Microsoft Word, save petition to a removable disk or CD, and mail the disk to the GYPC/Division on Ministries with Young People along with two signed copies of the petition.
- 2) Create the petition using word processing software, attach petition to an e-mail, and e-mail the attachment to the GYPC/Division on Ministries with Young People.
- 3) Create the petition as text within your e-mail software, and e-mail the petition to GYPC/the Division on Ministries with Young People.

Hand written copies

If you do not have any access to, you can write your petition on a clean sheet of paper. Be sure to put titles in your petitions and follow the format discussed above.

1) Put them in an envelope and send them to:
Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly
Division on Ministries with Young People
General Board of Discipleship
1908 Grand Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37212
United States

2) You can scan them send them via email at globalconvo@gbod.org. Follow the format above for sending your petitions via email.

For consideration, petitions must be postmarked or emailed by December 31, 2009 to the Global Young People's Convocation office of the Division on Ministries with Young People, Nashville, Tennessee, USA. This allows time for formatting, translation, printing, and distribution to the delegates. No legislation will be accepted after December 31, 2009.

Resolutions can be emailed to globalconvo@gbod.org or mailed to:

**Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly
Division on Ministries with Young People
General Board of Discipleship
1908 Grand Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37212
United States**

For additional information about the legislative process please contact globalconvo@gbod.org.

The Global Young People's Convocation is a global event for the purpose of celebrating the mission and vitality of young people in The United Methodist Church, raising the

joys and concerns of young people from the global community, developing young people as leaders for effective ministry in local churches and communities of faith, highlighting emerging trends in youth and young adult ministry, and providing a common forum that embraces the global reality of the church.

During the convocation there shall be opportunities for Jurisdiction and Central Conference delegations and individuals to discuss and vote on legislation in a forum known as the United Methodist Young People's Legislative Assembly.

Youth, Young Adults and Adult Workers from around the world who will gather at the Global Young People's Convocation and Legislative Assembly in Berlin, Germany in July 2010. The Legislative Assembly shall be made up of voting members of youth, young adults and adult workers from each jurisdiction and central conference.

The goal for the *Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation* is to make that voices of young people around the world will be heard in the life of The United Methodist Church. The legislation that is brought forth shall reflect the purpose of gathering young people from all over the world to recognize and respond to the needs of young people across the globe. It shall help the Church gain a greater cultural understanding of young people and the issues they face and provide a way to capture the voice of young people raising their joys, concerns, hopes and dreams for the Church. And it shall provide everyone with insight on how the proposed petitions could reflect the issues, perspectives and wisdom of young people around the world.

During the *Legislative Assembly*, there will be several opportunities for all participants to discuss petitions based on the topics of the petitions in committee groups organized by topic, and as a full legislative body. The purpose of these times discussions is to provide a setting in which each various points of view on the petitions can be expressed and heard. During these times, groups shall remain mindful of including all voices present (age, race, status, gender, country of origin, delegates, non-delegates, etc.). Staff representatives of the *Global Young People's Convocation* will serve as facilitators for each discussion time.

Throughout this process, each delegate is urged to prayerfully consider petitions submitted with an intent to discern the leading of the Holy Spirit.

A United Methodist bishop from the United States and young people who will be attending the Global Convocation will convene the resolution process of the Legislative Assembly.

Voting will occur at the final legislative session on Sunday afternoon. Only delegates of the *Legislative Assembly* will be able to vote although non-delegates will have voicemay participate in discussion. This practice maintains the continuity and equal representation by jurisdictions and central conferences that exist at the Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation. Robert's Rules of Order will be implemented for the final decision voting on the legislation.

Results of the voting will then be presented to the entire GYPC gathering following the final legislative session. To become an official position of the Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation, two thirds of the votes cast at the Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation must be in support of the resolution.

Legislation adopted by the *Legislative Assembly* will be referred to the Division on Ministries with Young People and sent directly to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church carrying the name "United Methodist Young People's Legislative Assembly."

Legislation that will be considered at the Legislative Assembly of the Global Young People's Convocation must be submitted prior to the event in order to format and translate each petition. Each petition must address only one issue/topic, and must include the name and contact information of the person submitting it. Anyone may submit petitions. Legislation will be grouped by topic and all legislation, petitions, and programming must be in accordance with ¶806.9 and ¶806.10 of the 2008 Book of Discipline of The UMC.

For consideration, petitions must be postmarked or emailed by December 31, 2009 to the Global Young People's Convocation office of the Division on Ministries with Young People, Nashville, Tennessee, USA. This allows time for formatting, translation, printing, and distribution to the delegates. Again, the postmark deadline is December 31, 2009 and no legislation will be accepted after December 31, 2009.

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